

STATE SENATOR • IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN • 3RD DISTRICT

Clark-Coleman Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 28, 2006

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CLARK-COLEMAN GREETES NM GOV. *Kicks Off National Hispanic Heritage Month*

DETROIT – Senator Irma Clark-Coleman (D-Detroit) joined Governor Jennifer Granholm and New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson (D) in kicking off Hispanic Heritage Month in southwest Detroit Thursday.

Gov. Richardson is the only sitting Hispanic governor in the country. He visited Detroit's Hispanic community to jump start the month-long celebration of the culture and its contribution to the world. Gov. Richardson, a former U.S. Secretary of Energy, expressed the need to embrace diverse cultures and for America to invest in itself through expanding alternative energy markets.

“Gov. Richardson’s visit helps us on two fronts,” Sen. Clark-Coleman said. “He is a living testament to the strength of diversity and he brings a national view to Michigan’s push toward expanding the research, production, and use of alternative energy.”

Through the newly implemented 21st Century Jobs Fund initiative state universities and companies are advancing alternative energy in areas including: hybrid vehicles, fuel cells, biofuels, and advanced batteries. The fund will invest more than \$1 billion over 10 years in alternative energy and other high-tech industries in Michigan.

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State Sen. Irma Clark-Coleman represents the 3rd Senate District. She sits on the Banking & Financial Institutions, Education, Families & Human Services, and Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs committees.